# General Assembly

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Agenda item 22 (*e*)

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/57/L.25 and Add.1)*]

### 57/40. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/22 of 10 November 2000, 55/161 of 12 December 2000 and 56/39 of 7 December 2001 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States,

*Bearing in mind* the charter establishing the Economic Community of Central African States, by which the Central African countries have agreed to work for the economic development of their subregion, to promote economic cooperation and to establish a Common Market of Central Africa,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000 by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations,[1] and especially chapter VII thereof,

*Noting* that, at the ninth regular session of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Malabo on 24 June 1999, the heads of State and Government of the member States decided to resume the activities of the Community, in particular by incorporating a collective security component, and by providing it with sufficient financial and human resources to enable it to become a real tool for the integration of their economies and to foster the development of cooperation between their peoples, with the ultimate aim of making it one of the five pillars of the African community and of helping Central Africa to meet the challenges of globalization,

*Bearing in mind* the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[2]

*Welcoming* the establishment of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa with a view to creating a climate of peace and security in the subregion and strengthening the rule of law essential to its development,

[1] See resolution 55/2.
[2] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

*Welcoming also* the efforts made by the Central African States, both on their own initiative and with the support of the international community, to focus on the difficulties afflicting this key region of Africa,

*Commending* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States for their undertaking to strengthen arrangements for cooperation within the Community,

*Noting with deep concern* that despite its enormous potential which could make it one of the poles of development of the continent, Central Africa has yet to achieve the stability that would enable it to utilize its resources to the maximum benefit of its population in an equitable manner,

*Welcoming* the contribution made by the United Nations system to the efforts made at the national and subregional levels with a view to promoting the process of democratization, recovery and development in Central Africa,

*Welcoming* the public meeting of the Security Council on 22 October 2002 devoted to strengthening cooperation between the United Nations system and the Central African region,[3]

*Noting with satisfaction* that as a result of the efforts of regional and subregional organizations, the subregion is gradually emerging from the conflicts that affect it, which offers an opportunity to build peace to be seized by all parties,

*Emphasizing* the need to mobilize significant resources to support demobilization, disarmament and reintegration programmes,

*Welcoming* in this regard, the establishment of the World Bank Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Programmes,

*Welcoming* the achievements of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa,

*Noting with satisfaction* the measures taken by the Economic Community of Central African States to combat the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS),

*Noting* the important contribution of women in the development process,

*Emphasizing* the urgency of reaching an appropriate solution to the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons in Central Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of States Members of the United Nations and United Nations organs, organizations and agencies which have maintained or strengthened their cooperation with the Economic Community of Central African States or have begun to cooperate with it with a view to achieving peace, security and development;

3. *Invites* the States Members of the United Nations and United Nations organs, organizations and agencies which have not yet established contact or relations with the Economic Community of Central African States to consider doing

[3] S/PV.4630

[4] A/57/266

so in order to help the Community strengthen its capacities in the area of the maintenance of peace and security and reconstruction;

4. *Commends* the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Economic Community of Central African States;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of close cooperation between the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the Economic Community of Central African States;

6. *Once again requests* the international community to consider seriously increases in its financial, technical and material support to the Economic Community of Central African States to enable it to implement fully its programme of action and to respond to the needs of the subregion for reconstruction and recovery;

7. *Calls upon* all Member States and the international community to consider contributing to the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States to achieve economic integration and development, promote democracy and human rights and consolidate peace and security in Central Africa and to implement the goals, targets and commitments of the United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] in particular, to strengthen the role of women in the development process;

8. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations agencies to continue to provide those countries of the Economic Community of Central African States in which a process of national reconstruction is taking place with appropriate assistance to consolidate their efforts towards democratization and the consolidation of the rule of law and to support their national development programmes;

9. *Invites* the United Nations and the international community to coordinate their efforts to assist the Central African States in establishing demobilization, disarmament and reintegration programmes;

10. *Declares itself convinced* of the importance to conflict resolution of the implementation of global, integrated and concerted strategies on questions relating to peace, security and development, and aware of the value of international cooperation and efforts to restore and maintain peace, and emphasizes that the international community should continue to help those countries which receive refugees to meet the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

11. *Urges* the United Nations and the international community to help to strengthen the means existing in the region to ensure that the Economic Community of Central African States has the necessary capacity with regard to prevention, monitoring, early warning and peacekeeping operations;

12. *Invites* the United Nations system and the international community to support the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the Economic Community of Central African States, with the active participation of the private sector;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to enhance contacts with the Economic Community of Central African States with a view to encouraging cooperation between the United Nations system and the Community;

14. *Invites* the international community in this regard, in the light of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2002 on the

strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and the Central African region in the maintenance of peace and security,[5] to consider supporting the Community in the area of economic integration and the implementation of its peace and security programmes, in particular the effective establishment of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the Central African Early Warning System;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*56th plenary meeting*
*21 November 2002*

[5] S/PRST/2002/31.